

## MEXICAN REPUBLIC CONTAINS MILLIONS OF INDIAN RACE

Problem More Complex Than  
That Which Confronted U. S.

### MANY INTELLIGENT TRIBES

Some Are Still in a State of Primitive  
Savagery, While Others Have Fol-  
lowed the Ways of the White  
Man.

New York.—Mexico's Indians present a problem vastly more difficult and more complex than any the United States bureau of Indian affairs ever tried to handle, says a writer in the New York Sun. In the first place there are more of them.

There are now 260,000 Indians in the United States, while there are more than 5,000,000 pure blood Indians between the Rio Grande and Guatemala besides a larger number of mestizos, or mixed bloods.

According to the best figures obtainable 84 per cent of the inhabitants of Mexico (about 13,000,000 souls) are wholly or partly of Indian blood. This is 50 times as many Indians as are now living in the United States.

Moreover, the Indians of Mexico have been more conspicuous in public affairs than the Indians of the United States. Benito Juarez, the Mexican patriot who overthrew the Emperor Maximilian, was a pure Zapotec. Manuel Altamirano, the Mexican author and critic; Huerta and Dr. Urrutia are other Indians.

The prominence which things Indian have in Mexico is difficult for the New Yorker who has never traveled in that land to comprehend. The Mexicans hold an annual national festival in honor of their aboriginal heroes, despite the fact that the dominant element in the population is the strain descended from the Spanish conquerors. The Mexicans are as proud of Montezuma and Guatemotzin as the Americans are of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.

Even the national seal comes from the Aztecs, who, tradition says, were induced to settle on the marshy islets which are now the City of Mexico by a sign from their gods, an eagle perched on a prickly pear strangling a serpent.

Scholars have declared the Aztec calendar system was superior to that in vogue in Europe at the time of Cortez. The Mayas of Yucatan are held by some students to have been even further advanced than the inhabitants of the Valley of Anahuac, or Mexico.

But the intelligence of certain Indians only emphasizes the complexity of the Mexican Indian problem. One student of the languages of Mexico, which correspond pretty well with the tribal divisions, concludes there are 17 families of tongues and 180 dialects. These dialects are not slight variations, however, but present differences so great that a man knowing only one dialect probably could not understand a man speaking an allied dialect. The mountainous character of the country has kept tribes apart and emphasized their differences. Association in Mexico does not always mean the melting pot, however. One finds sometimes



Typical Indian Woman of Mexico.

as many as four tribes in the same village. They live in different streets, each with its own language, customs, dress and superstitions.

In civilization the tribes run from the people of the central valleys and Yucatan, who have readily taken to the ways of the white men, to the wild cannibal Seris of Tiburon Island in the Gulf of California and the savages of lower California. The last named are among the lowest of the human race, nearly reaching the degradation of the Andaman Islanders and the African bushmen.

There are fierce Yaguais with their enormous bows and arrows. These

### CAPTURED BY THE AUSTRALASIANS



This is the beautiful Dwight F. Davis tennis cup emblematic of the championship of the world and just won from the Americans by the team from Australasia.

primitive weapons are even used by irregular hands assisting the constitutionalists.

It must be remembered, too, that the punitive expeditions of Porfirio Diaz were never so extensive or effective as the expeditions undertaken in our Indian wars. Had the Indians stuck together Cortez might never have conquered them. In Spanish times the tribes were gradually subdued. The



Indian Child With Babe.

Maya tribes were beaten one by one. It is significant that as late as 1900 there was organized Indian opposition to Mexico. In that year the Mexican troops took the citadel of Chan Santa Cruz at the end of a long, hard campaign.

President Wilson's hope in resurrecting the Mexican Indians lies in a belief that with a restoration of their land their lost qualities will return. With his land gone the Indian has become a peon, a degraded laborer. With land, he is represented to have been a contented cottager, fairly virtuous and deeply religious.

With a restoration of his lands, how will it be with the Indian? That is the great riddle of Mexico.

To get an idea of the best that may be hoped one might turn to the pages of Diego Duran, the Spanish missionary, who wrote sixty years after the conquest:

"There was never a nation in the world where harmony, order and politeness reigned so supreme as in this beauteous nation. In what country of the globe were there ever so many laws and regulations of the state at once so just and so well appointed? Where have kings ever been so feared and obeyed, their laws and orders so well observed as in this land?"

"In regard indeed to their laws and ancient mode of living all is much changed or wholly lost. Nothing but a shadow remains now of that good order. Our admiration is compelled by the strict account and census which they kept of all persons in town or country, who by this means to be called upon for help in anything they might be ordered to do. They had their presidents and chiefs and lesser authorities to look after the old, or the married, or the young about to be married, with such system and order that not even the newly born escaped their notice."

"So thorough was their superintendence of public works, that the man who labored one week was not allowed to present himself for toll the next, everybody taking his turn with much harmony and order to the end that nobody might feel aggrieved."

Three-Dollar Nugget in Chick's Crop. Baker, Ore.—A nugget worth \$3 was taken from the crop of a chicken sent to Baker from the Burnt River country. W. F. Weeks, who paid \$1.25 for two chickens, was the lucky purchaser, who got not only his dinner for nothing, but a bonus in addition.

## WHALES GOOD TO EAT

Message of Hope From North as  
Meat Prices Soar.

American Consul at Vancouver De-  
clares Flesh of the Monster of Deep  
Is Both Palatable and Whole-  
some—Has "Nutty" Taste.

Philadelphia.—Housekeepers, take comfort! Just as the price of beef is soaring skyward, and the cost of high living is driving many to distraction, comes a message of hope that whale is good eating, that there is an unlimited supply in the ocean, and that the monster of the deep is marketable, and could be put up in cans just like salmon or sardines.

The suggestion has official sanction. It comes from R. E. Mansfield, American consul general at Vancouver, British Columbia, in a report to the state department. He asserts that whale meat is both palatable and healthful. The general use of whale meat, he says, would build up an important industry. He suggests the salmon canneries of the Pacific coast might add the business of canning whale meat when the summer catch of salmon has been canned.

William E. Mehan, former state fish commissioner, and now director of the aquarium in Fairmount park, thinks the suggestion, coming from such an official source, ought to be practicable. The Eskimos, Mr. Mehan says, eat whale meat and like it, and he himself, when on the Peary relief expedition in 1892, ate the skin of the narwhal, a relative of the whale.

"I ate it out of curiosity," he said. "The natives are very fond of it. I ate it raw. It had rather a nutty flavor."

"There is a lot of fish and so-called fish that are edible, though not commonly known to the people, as food. For instance, the dog shark, the skate, and the ray. They are commonly classed among fishes and are very good eating. They are cold-blooded, but are separated from true fishes because they have a cartilaginous skeleton instead of a bony skeleton, which is one of the features of a true fish."

"The meat of the skate and the ray is as delicate as that of a flounder, especially the part commonly called the 'wings.' They have a pretty good sale now in New York and New Orleans, particularly among the French and the descendants of the French."

"There are a lot of things that are edible and that people are passing by as no good. But we will come to eat them in time. Among the things long thought worthless as food, but are now considered fine, is sturgeon. Thirty-five years ago the flesh of the sturgeon was not believed to be fit to eat by the majority of persons. The only part they esteemed was the caviar, or eggs. Now smoked sturgeon fish is regarded as a great delicacy, and brings a very high price in the market. It sells for 35 cents a pound, and even more at times."

"I see no reason why whales should not be marketable. The Eskimos eat it. It is not a fish. Whales are mammals and warm blooded."

### TOWN MAY INSURE ITS POLICE

Tragedy at Burlington (N. J.) Raises  
the Question of the City's  
Liability.

Burlington, N. J.—Liability insurance on its policemen to provide an income for them in case of injury or for their families in case of death is favored by several Burlington councilmen, as a result of the accidental killing, this week, of Patrolman Thomas Rogan. Two policemen have been fatally shot and one seriously injured here during the last decade.

The question of the city's liability for damages may enter into the killing of Rogan in mistake for a burglar by Winfield Templeton. It is reported that the widow of the dead policeman may seek damages under the employees' liability act. Attorneys disagree as to whether these could be granted.

A public subscription for the Rogan family was started today and a considerable sum already has been subscribed.

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### PAPER ITSELF WAS EVIDENCE

In This Case Examiner Required No  
Pledge That Student Had Done  
the Work Itself.

At a certain college custom ordains that at examination time each of the candidates shall write the following pledge at the bottom of his papers:

"I hereby declare, on my honor, that I have neither given nor received assistance during the examination."

One student, after handing in one of the papers, suddenly remembered that in his haste he had omitted to write the oath. On the following day he sought out one of the examiners and told him that he had forgotten to put the required pledge on his paper.

The examiner looked at him over the top of his glasses and dryly remarked:

"Quite unnecessary. Your paper in itself is sufficient evidence. I've just been correcting it!"

### Proof Positive.

"Hold on a minute," said a man to his party over the telephone, "central's on the line."

"I ain't, either!" exclaimed the indignant central.

### One Part Solved.

"The solar system is a great mystery."

"Well, at least, the sun's spotted."

### SISTER'S TRICK

But It All Came Out Right.

How a sister played a trick that brought rosy health to a coffee fiend is an interesting tale:

"I was a coffee fiend—a trembling, nervous, physical wreck, yet clinging to the poison that stole away my strength. I mocked at Postum and would have none of it."

"One day my sister substituted a cup of piping hot Postum for my morning cup of coffee but did not tell me what it was. I noticed the richness of it and remarked that the 'coffee' tasted fine but my sister did not tell me I was drinking Postum for fear I might not take any more."

"She kept the secret and kept giving me Postum instead of coffee until I grew stronger, more tireless, got a better color in my sallow cheeks and a clearness to my eyes; then she told me of the health-giving, nerve-strengthening life-saver she had given me in place of my morning coffee."

"From that time I became a disciple of Postum and no words can do justice in telling the good this cereal drink did me. I will not try to tell it, for only after having used it can one be convinced of its merits."

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"There's a Reason" for Postum.  
—sold by Grocers.

### Trials of Teaching.

Mrs. Hitch was having some trouble with a little fellow in her spelling class at Claysville.

"B-e-d, spells bed," she explained, over and over again; "b-e-d, bed. Do you understand?"

"Yes'm."

"Well, c-a-t spells cat, d-o-g spells dog and b-e-d spells— What did I tell you b-e-d spells?"

"Lunno."

"Don't you know! You don't know what b-e-d spells after all I've told you?"

"No'm."

"Well, once more, b-e-d spells what you sleep in. Now, what do you sleep in?"

"My drawers!" triumphantly exclaimed the urchin.—Cynthia Demo-  
crat.

### Advance Notice.

At the club the other night a member of the seventh regiment found himself the center of a group who were discussing the likelihood of an invasion of Mexico by the National Guard. Cheerful remarks about the penetrative powers of Mauser bullets peppered about him. Everybody had kindly suggestions to make—such, for instance, as that a medal neatly adjusted over each bullet hole would make him look as good as new. The victim took it very well.

"I'd like to contribute just one remark to this discussion," he said. "If I'm reported shot in the back, remember that I may have turned around to encourage my men."—New York Call.

### How She Escaped.

"Algy fell in love with a girl at the glove counter. He bought gloves every day for a week. To discourage his attentions she became a manicure."

"Then he had his nails manicured every day, I s'pose?"

"Just so. However, I don't think he'll follow her any farther."

"Why not?"

"Then she got employment with a dentist."

### The Weapon.

Tommy—What do jockeys beat their records with?

Willie—I know! With their whips.

If you treat a man like a dog you can't very well complain if you are bitten.

A man's sins usually find him in; his neighbors find him out.

### BY NO MEANS A STRANGER

Not the First Time Lawyer Had Slum-  
bered With the Companion of  
His Travels.

The new senator from Alabama, Francis Shelly White, is a lawyer and has a large practice in his state. Sometimes his work takes him out in the interior, and on one of these trips he was accompanied by his client, and client being a pious man, a deacon in the church to which White belonged.

It was late at night when the darky pulled up his span before the doors of the inn, which was presided over by a lady of generous heart and equal proportions. When he went to the desk to engage a room White was apologetically told that it was impossible, on account of the influx of visitors, to give him a separate chamber.

"I guess I can get a separate bed, then," said he. But to this the reply was the same.

"May I ask who is to be my bed-fellow?" asked White, who did not relish the idea of sharing his couch with a stranger.

"Why," replied the landlady, "it will be the gentleman with whom you came."

"Oh, that's all right then," said White, with a sigh of relief. "He and I are both deacons in the same church and have been sleeping together during the 11 o'clock sermon in the First Baptist church for 20 years."—Providence Journal.

### Knew the Men.

"Why has she never married?"  
"She doesn't like to stay alone nights."—Houston Post.

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